



Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Original

Received 4-28-03

To: *Docket # 02-277*

To Chairman & Commissioners

214 Documents

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

02-277

From: cwa3404@bellsouth.net
To: Michael Copps
Date: Thu, Apr 24, 2003 4:51 PM
Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not less, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

Sincerely,

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APR 28 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Sandra Kemp
2101 N Hwy 190
Suite 202
Covington, Louisiana 70433

From: Syndi Allgood
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Thu, Apr 24, 2003 8:47 PM
Subject: FCC protect media independence

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Dear Commissioner:

One of the basic elements which help to keep the American media at least partially free and independent is the set of FCC regulations restricting consolidation and monopolies.

In the 2002 Biennial Review, the FCC appears to be planning to roll back many of these protective regulations: the Newspaper/Broadcast Cross-Ownership Rule, the National Broadcast Ownership Cap, the Local Radio Ownership Rule, the Duopoly Rule and the Dual Network Rule.

Relaxation or abandonment of the preceding rules will result in the purchase of local and independent newspapers and radio and television stations by large media giants. The cost to the American People and Democracy will be far too high if local news, reportorial freedom and access to a true variety of legitimate views are further compromised.

Commissioner, I urge you to make sure the FCC does not relax or drop these vital regulatory rules.

Sincerely,

Syndi Allgood
4168 Quinn DR.
Evans, GA 30809

From: E Dillon
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Thu, Apr 24, 2003 8:47 PM
Subject: Keep media free and competitive

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Dear Commissioner:

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Sincerely,

E. Dillon
8196 Jordan Lane
Indianapolis, Indiana 46240

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Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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APR 26 2003

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To: Michael Copps
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Office of Secretary

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8196 Jordan Lane
Indianapolis, Indiana 46240

From: Alison Rasch
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, Apr 25, 2003 12:33 AM
Subject: FCC protect media independence

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Dear Commissioner:

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Alison Young Rasch
1902 Todville Road
Seabrook, TX 77586

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APR 28 2003

Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

From: Alison Rasch
To: Michael Copps
Date: Fri, Apr 25, 2003 12:34 AM
Subject: FCC protect media independence

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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Federal Communications Commission
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Sincerely,

Mrs. Alison Young Rasch
1902 Todville Road
Seabrook, TX 77586

02-277

From: john-cathy@att.net
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Mon, Apr 21, 2003 11:46 PM
Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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Sincerely,

Cathy O'Leary
17161 Alva Rd. #711
San Diego, California 92127

02-277

From: john-cathy@att.net
To: Mike Powell
Date: Mon, Apr 21, 2003 11:46 PM
Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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APR 20 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Sincerely,

Cathy O'Leary
17161 Alva Rd. #711
San Diego, California 92127

From: Allen L Hose
To: Michael Copps
Date: Tue, Apr 22, 2003 1:38 AM
Subject: Deregulation

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Dear Commissioner:

Regarding the upcoming FCC vote, further consolidation of the media in the false name of "deregulation" must be halted and in fact reversed. TV and radio news in the hands of a handful of profit-driven corporations has undermined our democracy more than any other modern force except the high cost of broadcast commercials during elections. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide crucial unbiased information to the public about most public issues, most notably the drive to war in Iraq. As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to break up the media conglomerates, to open the spectrum to a wide diversity of organizations and independent journalists, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine.

Thank you, Allen Hose

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APR 26 2003

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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APR 26 2003

U.S. Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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APR 20 2003

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

From: Terry Bouricius
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Apr 22, 2003 9:46 AM
Subject: media concentration

Dear Commissioners,

As a retired state legislator who has seen a dramatic narrowing of public debate in the media, I have become alarmed about the proposal to allow an increase in the concentration of media ownership. A diversity of perspectives is essential for genuine democracy. There is already far too much concentration in too few hands. If you won't work to undo the current undesirable situation, at least please do not exacerbate the problem. PLEASE stop this proposal to lift cross-ownership restrictions within media markets. Thank you.

-Terry Bouricius

Center for Voting and Democracy*

*for identification purposes only -- CVD has no formal position on this matter

Senior Policy Analyst &
New England Regional Director
terryb@fairvote.org
(802) 864-8382
Fax (443) 659-2399
56 Booth St.
Burlington, VT 05401

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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APR 23 2003

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
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APR 26 2003

STATE OF VERMONT

From: Bill O'Reilly
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Apr 22, 2003 10:27 AM
Subject: proposed media consolidation rule changes

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to express strong opposition to the proposed rule changes which will allow concentration of market power in fewer but larger media companies. I feel the rise of companies like Clear Channel is an unfortunate and very negative development. Their dominant marketing power will drive out independents and produce a homogenized and sanitized news which is very negative for a democracy. The big media conglomerates say they have to have the economies of scale and they will protect the public interest. Their record shows they have virtually never looked out for the public interest and only the govt has the power to insure they do so. Recently there was a train wreck which released toxic chemicals. Public safety officials called local radio stations to put out an alert. Since they had become Clear Channel stations no one was available at the stations to do so.

The FCC has the key function of safeguarding the public interest. If the FCC allows media conglomerates to get even bigger I feel it will be a great disservice to the country. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bill O'Reilly

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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APR 26 2003

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

From: Bill O'Reilly
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Sincerely,

Bill O'Reilly

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APR 26 2003

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Fawcett
To: Mike Powell
Date: Tue, Apr 22, 2003 10:49 AM
Subject: Media cross-ownership

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

I would ask the commission to postpone the June 2, 2003 date of decision, to allow more opportunity for public comment on lifting restrictions on cross ownership of media. I would ask that the commission keep the current restrictions, and or, find a way to encourage smaller competing interests to enter the market to air independent thought. Perhaps this could be done by changes in tax codes, and laws to allow incentives for start ups... in the media.

The current media in the Seattle area, and around the Nation presents such surface coverage of any issue with little depth and balance, that it may be of little real significance at the end of the day in any case. The media needs to dig deeper into issues that effect peoples lives instead of the sensational.

Sincerely,

Dr. Greg Fawcett
P.O. Box 402
Fall City, WA 98024
425-222-7011 (W)

RECEIVED
APR 23 2003
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

From: SLBmotorcity@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Tue, Apr 22, 2003 11:11 AM
Subject: Protect Children's Television!

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The FCC must consider the unique needs of children in its upcoming rulemaking on broadcast ownership rules.

Children consume almost five and a half hours of media per day. Research has shown that media, particularly television, play a unique and powerful role in children's development.

The FCC should consider how further relaxation of media ownership rules would impact children's programming. Deregulation may reduce competition, increase commercialism and result in less original programming for children.

Before making any regulatory changes to existing media ownership rules, the FCC must consider how children will be affected.

Sincerely,

Sandra L. Bickle
18181 Ramsgate Drive
Lathrup Village, Michigan 48076-4521

cc:
Senator Carl Levin
Senator Debbie Stabenow
Representative Sander Levin

From: friedakloeckner
To: Mike Powell
Date: Tue, Apr 22, 2003 11:16 AM
Subject: Fwd: FCC June 2nd vote re: restrictions on cross-ownership of media

Begin forwarded message:

> From: friedakloeckner <friedakloeckner@earthlink.net>
> Date: Tue Apr 22, 2003 11:17:17 AM US/Eastern
> To: MPOWELL@FCC.Gov
> Cc: Kabernat@FCC.Gov KJMWEB@FCC. Gov
> Subject: FCC June 2nd vote re: restrictions on cross-ownership of media
> Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed
> Mime-Version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v480)
> Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
> Message-Id: <8124AC4F-74D5-11D7-9303-000393A3AA74@earthlink.net>
> X-Apple-Mail-Signature:
>
> Dear FCC Member,
>
> The country needs access to a diversity of information on crucial
> issues to
> our democracy. As things now exist, many media are frightened to
> report on
> critical issues because of intimidation from various groups. Is this
> freedom of
> the press? If we truly are a democracy, then it is our obligation to
> foster this
> freedom. By voting to regulate and keep the few long-standing
> restrictions, you
> vote to continue to foster freedom of the press. If you vote to
> de-regulate, you
> do irreparable damage to that fundamental US freedom. Why are we
> fighting
> and rebuilding in Iraq? Isn't it in order to give the Iraqi citizens
> that freedom?
> Political and commercial intimidation already exist, ever pressuring
> our media
> to stay in line. Do we want a complete monopoly of the media? You
> have an
> awesome responsibility and duty to preserve our freedom; we urge you
> to vote
> against de-regulation.
> Yours truly,
>
> Alfred and Frieda Kloeckner
>
>
>
>

From: denise.mcguire@bt.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Tue, Apr 22, 2003 12:24 PM
Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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